MIZUNO EITA

WHENEVER PEOPLE HEAR THAT I'M DRAWING MANGAS, THEY ALWAYS SAY "WOW!" (WOW, HOW?), BUT I'M NOT TOO COMFORTABLE BEING TOLD THAT, SO ..I KEEP MY OCCUPATION A SECRET. I'M A MYSTERIOUS MAN.

GC ガンガンコミックス
既刊好評発売中!!

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DRAGON QUEST LAND OF ILLUSION COMPLETE 10 VOL

JUNGLE WA ITSUMO HARE NOCHI GUU COMPLETE 10 VOL

PAPUWA FROM THE SOUTHERN ISLAND COMPLETE 7 VOL

DRAGON QUEST MONSTERS+ COMPLETE 5 VOL

PANZER KLAINE COMPLETE 5 VOL

KIYOMURA-KUN AND SUZUKOUJI-KUN COMPLETE 4 VOL

●書切れの時は本屋さんに注文して下さい。

ガロガロ 毎月12日発売!!
日本一元気なエンターテインメントコミック!!

スパイラル

推理の絆

3

作：城平　京

画：水野英多

GANGAN COMICS

GC スパイラル 推理の絆 3

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SPIRAL-SUIRI NO KIZUNA-

スパイラル 3

―推理の絆―

作：城平 京
画：水野英多

GANGAN COMICS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY INANE:
#MANGAREADERS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

SCANNER: ALIERA
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EDITOR: JOULUPUKKI
PROOFER: MISAO_CHAN

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・
団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。

CHAPTER 11: THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH

THERE WAS A MAN
WHO HELD THE TITLE OF
THE "PRIME DETECTIVE"
IN A POLICE DEPARTMENT...
AND YET NOW, HE'S GONE.
HE DISAPPEARED LEAVING
A MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE,
"I'M GOING AFTER
THE BLADE CHILDREN".
TO THIS DAY, HIS WHEREABOUTS
ARE STILL UNKNOWN.
THEREFORE... THIS STORY
IS DEDICATED
TO HIS BROTHER, NARUMI AYUMU.

The SPIRAL
Of fortune
Is Beginning
To go around

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CHAPTER 11: THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH ——— 7

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CHAPTER 11
THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH

I'VE ALREADY BEEN NOTICED BY THE BLADE CHILDREN.
THE BOND INCIDENT AND ASAZUKI KOUSUKE...
コト.
EVEN THOUGH MY ENEMY'S GOAL ISN'T TO TAKE MY LIFE...
BUT...
THEY DON'T SEEM TO CARE IF I LIVE OR DIE EITHER.

THAT GUY KNEW... THE SECRET BETWEEN ME AND MY BROTHER.
YOUR FIRST LOVE GOT STOLEN AWAY BY KIYOTAKA!
YOUR BROTHER TOLD ME SO!
FROM THAT, I CAN TELL THAT MY BROTHER'S BEHIND THIS.
.....
——— THAT BROTHER...

BUT...
IF IT WASN'T BY CHANCE...
KIYOTAKA-SAN'S FAVOURITE FLOWER APPEARED AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME. IT DEFINATELY WAS NOT BY CHANCE!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
IF SO, WHY DID SONOBE GET KILLED?
IS KIYOTAKA-SAN CLOSE TO ME?
ARE THEY THE HINTS HE'S GIVING ME?
KIYOTAKA-SAN... IT'S SO PAINFUL...

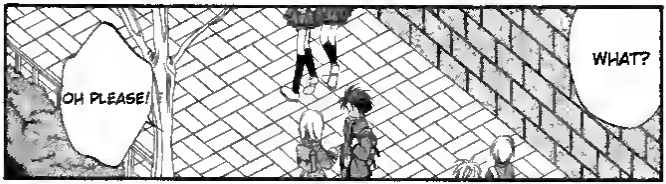
LET ME SEE YOU...
HEAR YOUR VOICE...
THESE 2 YEARS...
I WAS ALWAYS...
SFX KNOCK KNOCK
IT'S TIME TO EAT...
HURRY UP! OTHERWISE THE FOOD'S GOING TO GET COLD
AH...
OKAY...
THANKS, I'LL BE THERE RIGHT AWAY
!
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

SFX: PHONE RINGING
プルルルル
プルルルル
HI, NARUMI RESIDENCE.
THIS IS HIYONO!
HOW ARE YOU, NARUMI-SAN?
WHAT DO YOU WANT? I'M NOT IN THE MOOD TO CHAT TO YOU!
YOU SOUND SO COLD AGAIN
I HAVE SOME NEWS TO TELL YOU!
MY BAD.
GO ON!
WHAT NEWS?

IT'S ASAZUKI-SAN'S INFORMATION
I'VE FINALLY GOT SOMETHING!
!
ASAZUKI KOUSUKE
ACCORDING TO HIS ASTROLOGY SIGN (VIRGO), HE SHOULD BE 17 THIS YEAR.
HE WENT TO MORIKAWA MIDDLE SCHOOL UNTIL THE AGE OF 14 SINCE HIS SECOND YEAR, NO ONE HAS KNOWN OF HIS WHEREABOUTS AFTER HE HURT A TEACHER.

OI, HOW DID YOU GET THE INFORMATION THIS TIME?
HE WAS AN ORPHAN WITH NO ONE TO DEPEND ON.
HIS FATHER IS UNKNOWN, HIS MOTHER DIED FROM A CAR ACCIDENT WHEN HE WAS 3
THAT'S ALL THE INFORMATION I COULD GATHER.
IT DIDN'T TAKE THAT LONG FOR ME TO SEARCH THE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL RECORDS FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS UNDER THE NAME "KOUSUKE ASAZUKI"
I JUST DID A GENERAL SEARCH!
IN THE SPACE OF ONE WEEK, I CAN EVEN FIND OUT WHERE HE CURRENTLY LIVES
YOU WAIT AND SEE!
……
♪
ぺらぺら ぺらぺら

HE WAS THE PERFECT PERSON FOR THE JOB
FROM HIS BACKGROUND, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HE HAS ANY BUMPENS OR RESPONSIBILITIES
THAT ASAZUKI KOUSUKE
—— BUT...
IT'S MOST LIKELY THAT HE HAD SOME SORT OF BIG ORGANIZATION TO BACK HIM UP
NARUMI-SAN
DIDN'T YOU FORGET SOMETHING?
NARUMI-SAN?
.....
NARUMI-SAN!
AH?


WHAT?
OH PLEASE!

WHY SHOULD I SAY THAT?
A TOUCHING THANK YOU LIKE THAT!
EH?

YOU SHOULD SAY "HIYONO, THANK YOU SO MUCH, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT YOU"

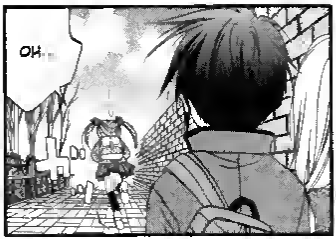
SFX: POUT

ぷぅ
mmm
I'LL KILL YOU!!
UUUAAAHHH!

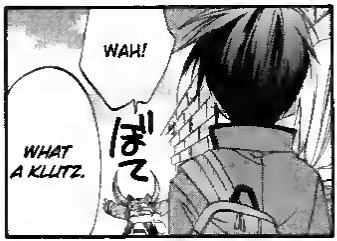
?
SFX: SPRINT SPRINT
SFX: TRIPS
AH!
WAAAAA

SFX: SNATCH
SFX: WALKS OFF
SOB SOB...
MY... MY BREAKFAST..
SFX: HA
はっ
WHOA!
SFX: KYAAAAAAAAAA
やあああああ

MY BROTHER'S CONTROLLING EVERYTHING WITH HIS HANDS
IT'S AS IF...
THIS KIND OF FEELING SUCKS!
HE'S GOT SOME SKILL!
NARUMI-OTOUTO...
HMPH, THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T CAREFUL ENOUGH.
NOT ONLY DID HE SEE THROUGH MY ACT, HE ALSO PASSED BOTH STAGES
THERE'S NO DOUBT HE'S RELATED TO KIYOTAKA.


OH...

I...
I'M FINE, FINE!


WAH!
WHAT A KLUTZ.

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S ASAZUKI OR IF IT'S THE BLADE CHILDREN,
IN THE END IT'S ALL CONNECTED TO MY BROTHER.

YOU SHOULDN'T DESIGN.
A GAME WHERE THERE'S A CHANCE FOR THE PLAYER TO WIN.
.....
RUTHERFORD...
DO YOU STILL HOPE TO BE SAVED?
DOES NARUMI-OTOUTO REALLY HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE THE DESTINY OF THE BLADE CHILDREN?
.....
I'M ONLY FOLLOWING KIYOTAKA'S PLAN.

RUTHERFORD
WHAT MAN'S POWER CANNOT CHANGE IS CALLED DESTINY!
PLAN...
DON'T FORGET, OUR DESTINY WAS CREATED BY SOMEONE ELSE
TOY
SO, THERE'S NO WAY IT CAN CHANGE,
KIYOTAKA SHOULD KNOW THIS VERY WELL.
.....

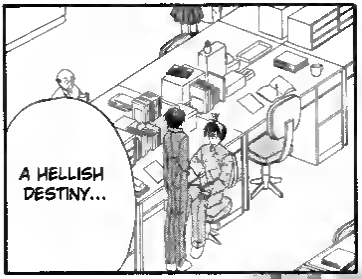
YOU SHOULD ASK NARUMI-OTOUTO FOR THE ANSWER!
AYUMU, DO YOU WANT TO GIVE UP PIANO?
SEE IF THAT GUY CAN ARRIVE AT THE CROSSROADS OF DESTINY.
THAT'S RIGHT! I DON'T HAVE THE TALENT ANYWAY
BUT... YOU LIKE PLAYING THE PIANO!

YOU HAVE THE STRENGTH TO OVERCOME MANY PROBLEMS,
AS LONG AS YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, YOU CAN EVEN CHANGE DESTINY
AYUMU, YOU HAVE TO BELIVE IN YOURSELF.
YOU ACTUALLY HAVE TALENT IN THIS AREA.
AS LONG AS YOU PRACTICE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PERFORM BEFORE THE WORLD BEFORE THE AGE OF 20.
BUT-I DON'T THINK I HAVE TALENT.
I BELIEVED THAT BEFORE...

EVEN MY FIRST LOVE BECAME MY BROTHER'S...
BUT ALL MOM SEES IS MY BROTHER.
BUT, IT SEEMS THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO SURPASS MY OLDER BROTHER.
SHE MADE ME FEEL AS IF I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO SURPASS MY BROTHER ON THE PIANO.
ぎゅー
SFX CLENCH
SO I CAN'T ESCAPE FROM MY BROTHER AFTER ALL!
!?
HISTORY
SFX THUD!
ENGLISH
PAY ATTENTION IN CLASS!

MEET ME IN MY OFFICE LATER.
AH...
SORRY.
OFFICE
I WAS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A CHANCE TO REMIND YOU,
YOUR GRADES ARE OKAY, AND YOU DON'T HAVE PROBLEMS IN SPORTS EITHER,
EVEN THOUGH YOU LACK CO-OPERATION, BUT THAT'S JUST THE WAY YOU ARE
ACTUALLY I CALLED YOU HERE FOR NO SPECIFIC REASON
SO, WHY DID YOU?

I PITY YOU A LITTLE BIT.
IF YOU JUST TRY A LITTLE MORE, YOU COULD DO THINGS THAT NORMAL PEOPLE CAN'T DO!
YOU GIVE UP ON YOURSELF... TOO EASILY.
I'M ONLY A NORMAL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT.
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SAD ABOUT,
YOU'RE SO YOUNG, YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T GIVE UP SO EASILY.
IN THE FUTURE, MAYBE SOMEONE WILL NEED YOUR STRENGTH TO HELP THEM,
SO, YOU SHOULD BE TRAINING YOURSELF.


A HELLISH DESTINY...

THAT'S ALL YOU WANTED TO SAY SENSEI!?
.....

.....

IS SLOWLY APPROACHING YOU

WHAT?

LUNCH BREAK
SUZUKI-SENSEI, SHE ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT SHE DIDN'T DO IT.
I DON'T BELIEVE HER, SHE CAN'T TRICK ME!

I
I'M NOT LYING!
SOB SOB
THIS STUDENT IS LYING!
IT WAS REALLY SOMEONE ELSE WHO THREW THE ROCK FROM THE OUTSIDE THAT BROKE THE WINDOW
IF THE ROCK WAS THROWN FROM THE OUTSIDE, THEN WHY ARE THE GLASS PIECES ON THE OUTSIDE?
YOU'RE STILL TRYING TO LIE!
SCARED!

BUT I REALLY DIDN'T DO IT!
STOP LYING!
IF THE GLASS WAS HIT FROM THE OUTSIDE, THE PIECES SHOULD FALL ON THE INSIDE!
SIGH
SUZUKI-SENSEI, CALM DOWN
PLEASE STOP INTERFERING!
ぎゃん
ぎゃん
ズイ
ALRIGHT, LET'S STOP FOR A MOMENT
SHE JUST GOT CHASED BY A DOG THIS MORNING
ズッ
THIS GIRL'S GOT SOME PRETTY BAD LUCK

!?
DIDN'T YOU KNOW, SENSEI?
GLASS IS ELASTIC
IN ORDER TO RETURN TO ITS ORIGINAL POSITION AFTER AN OBJECT BENDS DUE TO A FORCE, A REBOUNDING FORCE IS PRODUCED
EVEN IF THE OBJECT BROKE, IT WILL STILL BEHAVE THIS WAY
THE REBOUNDING FORCE WILL CAUSE THE GLASS TO FALL ON BOTH SIDES
IT'S CALLED THE "BLOWBACK EFFECT"
SO, IT'S RATHER COMMON FOR GLASS TO FALL ON THE OUTSIDE EVEN THOUGH THE ROCK IS THROWN FROM THE SAME SIDE.

THIS GIRL DID NOT LIE.
!
CLEAN UP THE GLASS AND APOLOGIZE TO THE GIRL WHEN YOU'VE UNDERSTOOD WHAT I'VE SAID
ペコペコ
.....

AFTER SCHOOL
NARUMI-KUN!
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP TODAY AT LUNCH. WE FOUND THE CULPRIT SOON AFTERWARDS
IT WAS NOTHING,
ANYONE COULD HAVE REALIZED SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
YOU STILL DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE SAY, YOU MUST BELIEVE IN YOURSELF.
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A SMALL THING, IT HELPED SOMEONE EXPLAIN HERSELF.
THAT MEANS IT WAS WORTH A LOT.
OR ELSE... IT WOULD BE TOO PITIFUL.
.....
IT'S AS I THOUGHT

I HEARD YOU MADE A MOVE ON YOUR OWN.
SO HE'S NARUMI KIYOTAKA'S BROTHER.
DON'T WORRY, I HAVEN'T RUINED KIYOTAKA'S PLANS.

SO IT'S LIKE THAT?
YOUR ACTIONS .. SEEM AS THOUGH YOU'RE TRYING TO KILL NARUMI AYUMU!
A LITTLE HARDSHIP WOULD HELP HIM GROW.
.....
HE HAS HIS OWN REASON TO EXIST,
IF YOU GET OUT OF HAND, DON'T BLAME ME FOR BEING HEARTLESS
WE HAVE OUR REASONS TO EXIST AS WELL!
DON'T FORGET THAT YOU
EVEN THOUGH YOUR HELP IS APPRECIATED ..

SFX: HANG UP
ガチャッ
BUT TO US, YOU'LL ALWAYS BE A PERSON WHO WE HATE.
カチャ
.....
KIYOTAKA-SAN...

EXCUSE ME...
DO YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS REALLY A GOOD IDEA?
SPK. BOW
ペコリ
THANK YOU FOR THIS AFTERNOON

WHOA...
SFX: TROT
WAH!
SFX: TRIPS
.....
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?
DIDN'T YOU HEAR HER SAY "THANK YOU"?
IT WAS SOMETHING SIMPLE...
TAKE THAT!
WA
む
SFX: POUT

GROW!
EYES RUTHERFORD...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
NARUMI-OTOUTO...

IF YOU ARE KIYOTAKA'S BROTHER
YOU SHOULD TRY YOUR BEST TO GET TO THE TOP!
?
THE YOU RIGHT NOW, IS NOWHERE NEAR KIYOTAKA
I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CATCH UP TO MY BROTHER IN MY LIFE
カサカサ

JUST AS YOU SAID...
I'LL ALWAYS BE A LOSER.
KOUSUKE-KUN!
?
!!
UGH!

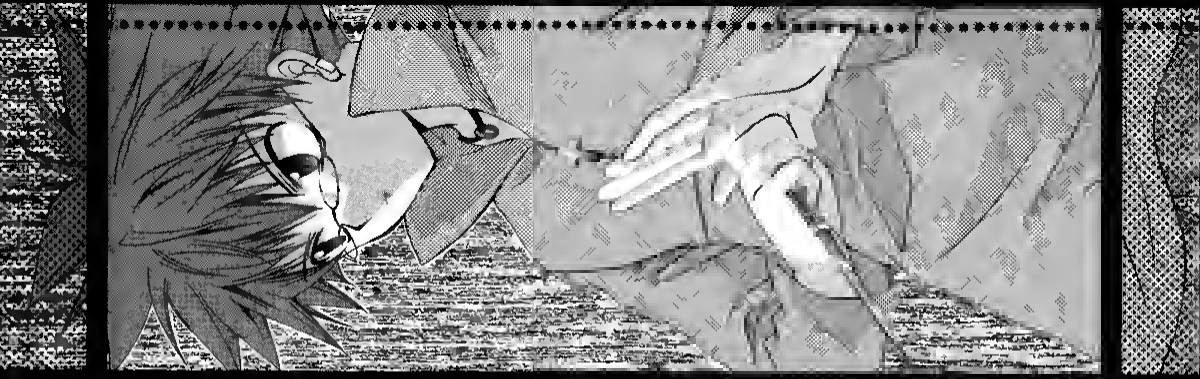
SFX: SMILE
HEY...
IT'S YOU!
SFX: CLENCH
BROTHER...
WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME IN THE FUTURE?
WHAT KIND OF POWER DO I HAVE THAT I SHOULD TRUST MYSELF IN?

THE FEELINGS OF AN IGNORED CHILD, [illegible] FOR THE SAKE OF CHANGING "DESTINY"
THE THING I DOUBT THE MOST IS MY OWN STRENGTH!
THERE'S ALREADY BEEN A LOT OF PEOPLE...

スパイラル

推理の絆

SPIRAL



Chapter 12
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AFE
SUN

NARUMI-OTOUTO...
AT THIS STAGE, WE STILL CANNOT TALK WITH HIM.
BECAUSE HE'S STILL MISSING SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT.

BUT HE DOES POSSESS SOME SPECIAL POWERS
HE DOESN'T TRUST IN HIS OWN ABILITIES
THAT'S WHY HE WON'T BRAVELY CHALLENGE FATE AND INSTEAD HE IS MANIPULATED BY OTHERS.
I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD INTERFERE HE'LL FACE HIS DESTINY EVENTUALLY.
IF WE FOLLOW THE PLAN ACCORDINGLY, WE MIGHT STILL SUCCEED
.....
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO PERSONALLY DESTROY OUR LAST HOPE?

...IF HE REALLY IS THE KEY TO CHANGING FATE...
THEN WE WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP HIM.
RUTHERFORD IF YOU DON'T STOP NOW,
I'LL CONSIDER YOU AS MY ENEMY!
WE DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE TO HAVE YOU IN THE PLAN
I CAN'T HAVE YOUR JUDGMENT DESTROYING ALL HOPE THAT WE HAVE
THIS IS NOT ONLY THE "BLADE CHILDREN'S" PROBLEM.

I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE UP LIKE THIS!
THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT
I DON'T WANT MY MISSING RIB TO CONTINUE HURTING LIKE THIS
IF YOU TRY TO STOP ME,
I'LL HAVE TO KILL YOU.
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ASAZUKI KOUSUKE OVER THERE TO DO IT?
——!

DAMN, YOU FOUND OUT?
TCK!
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I'VE DECIDED TO HELP NARUMI AYUMU.
HE CURRENTLY DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION
ONCE THE SITUATION GETS BIG, THERE'S NO STOPPING IT.
——...

WELL, IT'S BECAUSE YOUR MOVES DRAW SO MUCH ATTENTION.
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY BETTER BEFORE?
THE SITUATION IS GETTING WORSE!
IF HE WERE TO GIVE INFORMATION TO NARUMI-OTOUTO, THAT WOULD MEAN TROUBLE.
THEN LET'S KILL HIM!
CROSSING SWORDS WITH IMAZATO MEANS THAT YOU'RE GOING TO GET STABBED IN THE BACK.
NOT ONLY DOES HE KNOW ABOUT OUR BACKGROUND, HE ALSO HAS A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE IN THE ORGANIZATION.

HE'S HARD TO DEFEAT
PLUS HE RECOGNIZES ME.

HOW YOU DO IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

THAT BASTARD IS NOT SO EASY TO KILL!

——...

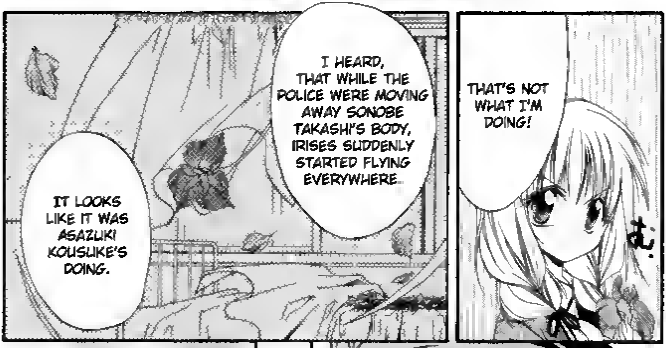
IF YOU DON'T THINK YOU CAN HANDLE IT
YOU CAN GET HELP FROM RIO.

BUT I'M AFRAID OF HER
RIO? IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM FOR HER...
AREN'T YOU THE SAME?
.....
IT'S NO USE...
TAP TAP TAP TAP
GAH!
HMMM

HMMMM~~?
.....?
AHAHA!
DAYS LATER. AFTER SCHOOL
GOOD MORNING!
GOOD MORNING!
~~~...
FLOWERS
~~~

HUH?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
YOU LOOK ESPECIALLY BAD TODAY!
DON'T COME NEAR ME WHEN YOU'RE SINGING WITH A FLOWER IN YOUR HAND!
ミロ
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? THIS IRIS IS SO BEAUTIFUL!
I HATE IRISES!
ガサゴソ

HUH... YOU HATE THIS TYPE OF FLOWER?
YOU'RE USING THE FLOWER TO MAKE ME MAD!


I HEARD, THAT WHILE THE POLICE WERE MOVING AWAY SONOBE TAKASHI'S BODY, IRISES SUDDENLY STARTED FLYING EVERYWHERE.
IT LOOKS LIKE IT WAS ASAZUKI KOUSUKE'S DOING.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M DOING!

THAT'S THE TYPE OF FLOWER MY BROTHER LIKES
THE MEANING OF THIS FLOWER IS "HAPPINESS OF THE BELIEVER"
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
ASAZUKI KOUSUKE KNEW YOU HATED THIS FLOWER. HE'S CLEARLY TRYING TO MAKE YOU ANGRY.
——...

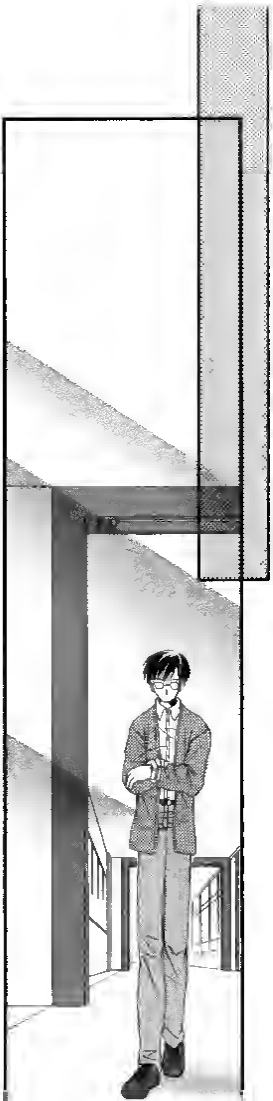
IF YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF,
YOU CAN EVEN CHANGE FATE.
DOES BROTHER WANT TO REPEAT THOSE WORDS AGAIN?
IT'S SO LONELY.
I CAN'T FIND WHERE ASAZUKI KOUSUKE IS LIVING,
WOULD THAT ACTUALLY BE A MESSAGE FOR ME?
HE PROBABLY DOESN'T HAVE A PERMANENT PLACE TO LIVE
CAN THE POWER OF "BELIEF" ACTUALLY SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS?
NARUMI
NARUMI! AYUMU!
!
IT'S BETTER IF YOU DON'T DAY-DREAM IN THE MIDDLE OF THE HALLWAY.
YOU DON'T WANT TO GET WEIRD LOOKS FROM OTHER PEOPLE!

I'M... I'M SO SORRY.
.....
I HAVE SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE "BLADE CHILDREN"...
ARE YOU INTERESTED?
WHAT?!
CALM DOWN.
I'M RISKING MY OWN LIFE JUST TO TALK TO YOU
PLEASE ACT AS IF NOTHING IS HAPPENING

IT SEEMS THAT YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND ME!
THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE MAKING MOVES, IT'S PRACTICALLY BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION
AND THEY ALL HAVE THEIR OWN MOTIVES
SENSEI, COULD YOU TELL ME..
WHO YOU ACTUALLY ARE?
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO ACCOMPLISH?
——...
I DON'T WANT OTHERS TO HEAR

IF I DON'T HANDLE THIS CORRECTLY, I'LL LOSE MY LIFE
THE "BLADE CHILDREN" ARE AGAINST ME,
LET'S FIND ANOTHER PLACE!
LET'S MEET AT 4:30 IN THE STUDENT DIRECTOR'S OFFICE.
ALRIGHT.
I'LL BE LEAVING,
THERE'S GOING TO BE A TEACHER'S CONFERENCE IN A LITTLE WHILE!

DON'T YOU THINK THAT I'M PUTTING MY FOOT DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THIS MESS?
....
MAYBE...
FROM THE BEGINNING, THERE WAS NO WAY OUT...
.....



AHH!
!
ぼろ
ARE... ARE YOU OK?
.....
MMM

COME ON!
——SO CLUMSY!
STAND UP——

——GOODBYE, SENSEI——...
ガ!
ドゲ

.....
I'M ONE OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN"...
RIO TAKEUCHI
WAAHH!
くるん
ヒュ～ン

ザワ
ザワ
ザワ
ザワ
.....?
WHAT HAPPENED?
SOMEBODY ALREADY CALLED THE POLICE
IMAZATO-SENSEI, WAS MURDERED!

GET OUT OF THE WAY!
I HAVE SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE BLADE CHILDREN"
ARE YOU INTERESTED?
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING...

IF YOU DON'T WANNA BECOME MY ENEMY, THEN IT'S BEST IF YOU KEPT YOUR MOUTH SHUT...
にこぉ
WAIT FOR THE POLICE..
I KNOW!
YOU CAN'T TOUCH HIM!
HEY!
HUH...
.....!
I WON'T FORGIVE THEM
リア
リア

DAMN IT!
I CAN'T FIND ANY CLUES!
HUFF HUFF
WHO WAS IT THAT KILLED SONOBE TAKASHI?!
ABOUT THAT... OFF!... OFFICER...
DO YOU KNOW WHERE ALL THOSE IRIS FLOWERS AT THE MURDER SCENE CAME FROM?
HUH?
NO

THEN DON'T COME BACK!
I HAVE NO IDEA.
SOMEBODY JUST CALLED THE POLICE.
REALLY..
UM... OFFI... OFFICER!
A MURDER OCCURRED AT TSUKIOMI SCHOOL...
THE VICTIM IS A TEACHER.

.....
AN ACCURATE THRUST TO THE HEART.
KILLED HIM WITH ONE STROKE.
THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS!
HE WAS ACTUALLY AMBUSHED IN A BUSY CORRIDOR.
IF THE MURDERER WASN'T BOLD ENOUGH OR HAD ENOUGH CONFIDENCE
IT WOULD BE HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO BE SO SWIFT AND RUTHLESS.

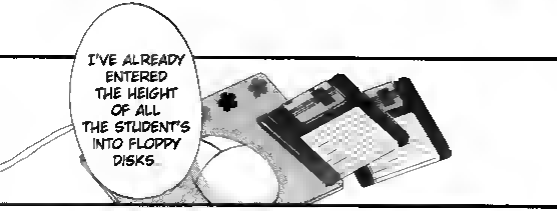
COULD THIS BE THE HANDY WORK OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN" AGAIN
THEY ARE ALWAYS ONE STEP AHEAD OF ME
SINCE IT'S LIKE THIS
I'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE!
THE ESTIMATED TIME OF THE MURDER OCCURRED AROUND 4:21 P.M.
THE MURDERER IS A STUDENT OF OUR SCHOOL. THE MURDERER IS STILL NEAR THE SCENE OF THE CRIME AND HASN'T LEFT THE SCHOOL YET!
THE MURDERER IS UNDER 155CM IN HEIGHT!
AND THE SEX IS FEMALE!
USING THIS INFORMATION, CAN YOU NARROW DOWN THE NUMBER OF POSSIBLE SUSPECTS?
ごろ

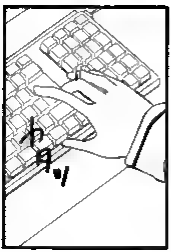
I'M ASKING YOU TO HELP ME
YOU WANT TO TEST MY ABILITIES?
.....
GIVE ME 3 DAYS
I'LL USE ALL OF MY RESOURCES FROM MY INTELLIGIENCE NETWORK TO NARROW DOWN THE NUMBER OF POSSIBLE SUSPECTS TO AROUND 20
THAT'S A GREAT NUMBER
WE MUST USE THIS MOMENTUM TO FIND THE KILLER!
I'M GOING TO GET YOU ALL!

ザワ
ザワ
"THE BLADE CHILDREN"
HEY! DID YOU HEAR?
THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEWS GROUP IS INVESTIGATING THE MOVEMENTS OF THE STUDENTS AND THOSE WHO WEREN'T AT THE SCENE OF THE MURDER!
SHE EVEN KNOWS THE EXAM SCORES OF ALL THE STUDENTS, STARTING FROM THREE YEARS AGO
WHAT? YOU'RE LYING!
SHE KNOWS THE DIRTY SECRETS OF A LOT OF PEOPLE, NOT EVEN THE PRINCIPAL HAS THE GUTS TO STOP HER!
THE TEACHERS AREN'T STOPPING HER...
YOU DIDN'T KNOW?

.....

THE BROTHER OF KIYOTAKA-SAMA IS GIFTED WITH STRONG ALLIES


I'VE ALREADY ENTERED THE HEIGHT OF ALL THE STUDENT'S INTO FLOPPY DISKS



THIS WILL MAKE IT A LOT EASIER TO FIND GIRLS WHO ARE UNDER 155CM TALL

I'VE ALREADY INVESTIGATED YESTERDAYS MOVEMENTS OF THESE PEOPLE
DON'T WORRY, JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!
I'VE CREATED A MAP WHICH SHOWS WHERE THESE PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE BEEN AT THAT TIME AND HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE FOR THEM TO MOVE.
EVEN SO, THERE ARE OVER 50 PEOPLE WHO FIT THE DESCRIPTION
HEHE... WE'LL KNOW RIGHT AWAY WHO PASSED BY THE SCENE OF THE CRIME
EVEN THE POLICE CAN'T COMPETE WITH YOU
YOUR ABILITY TO GATHER INTELLIGENCE IS AMAZING.
YOU'RE PRETTY INCREDIBLE YOURSELF!

YOU COULD FIGURE OUT THE APPEARANCE OF THE MURDERER IN AN INSTANT.
WELL, THAT'S REALLY NOTHING
LOOKING AT THE BODY, YOU CAN TELL THAT THE VICTIM DIDN'T RESIST OR TRY TO ESCAPE,
AND THE FACT IS, THE DEATH WAS CAUSED BY A CLOSE RANGE THRUST
SENSEI KNEW FROM THE VERY BEGINNING THAT SOMEBODY WAS GOING TO KILL HIM
THE MURDERER HAD TO FIND A WAY TO MAKE HIM LOWER HIS DEFENCES
SO IT'S MOST LIKELY THAT SHE IS A STUDENT OF THIS SCHOOL IN ORDER FOR HER NOT TO APPEAR SUSPICIOUS
PLUS, HER APPEARANCE WOULDN'T RESEMBLE THAT OF AN ASSASSIN.

THE TIME OF DEATH?
I CAN TELL FROM THE SOLIDIFICATION OF THE BLOOD.
MY BROTHER TAUGHT ME HOW TO EXAM THE MINUTE BY MINUTE CHANGES OF BLOOD
SO I CAN TELL THE TIME THE MURDER TOOK PLACE.
HOW ABOUT THE HEIGHT?
THE KILLER THREW THE KNIFE ON TOP OF THE VICTIM'S BACK,
THE BLOOD ON THE KNIFE IS SPLATTERED IN THE FRONT OF THE BLADE BECAUSE OF THE LAWS OF MOTION.
I CAN USE THE PATTERN OF WHERE THE BLOOD FELL TO CALCULATE THE SUSPECT'S POSITION AND POSTURE. THEN I CAN ESTIMATE THE HEIGHT THE KNIFE WAS THROWN DOWN FROM, AND THEN USE PYTHAGORA'S THEOREM TO CALCULATE HER HEIGHT.
ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT ENTIRELY ACCURATE, IT SHOULD BE AROUND 155CM.
I DON'T THINK A GUY WOULD BE THAT HEIGHT.
TODAY'S NARUMI-SAN IS REALLY DIFFERENT!
ハッ!?

BUT EVEN SO, THERE IS STILL TOO LITTLE EVIDENCE.
IT'S HARD TO NARROW DOWN THE SUSPECTS TO UNDER 10 PEOPLE,
WITH THIS TYPE OF INFORMATION.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, MY HYPOTHESIS WOULDN'T BE PERSUASIVE ENOUGH.
EVEN IF YOU DO FIND THE KILLER, IF SHE DOESN'T ADMIT TO THE CRIME, THEN IT WOULD STILL BE USELESS!
THEN HAVE I WORKED SO HARD THESE LAST FEW DAYS FOR NOTHING?
BUT I KNOW FOR SURE THAT THE MURDERER IS ONE OF THE "BLADE CHILDREN"
IF THAT'S TRUE,
THEN I SHALL BE THE VICTOR

KIYOTAKA-SAN'S LITTLE BROTHER IS INCREDIBLE!
HMM, NOT ONLY THOSE TWO .
HE STILL HAS A SUPER SPECIAL ABILITY!
IT'S NO WONDER WHY HE AND KIYOTAKA-SAN SHARE THE SAME BLOOD.
トン
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT HIS OBSERVATION AND ANALYTICAL SKILLS?
IN SUCH A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME, HE FOUND OUT THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KILLER AND STARTED TO GATHER UP POSSIBLE SUSPECTS
HE IS REALLY GOOD!

BUT, I WOULDN'T HAVE GUESSED THAT HIS ACTIONS WOULD BE SO SWIFT.
HMM... YOU'RE RIGHT!
KILLING SOMEONE WITHIN THE SCHOOL IS LIKE A DIRECT CHALLENGE TO HIM AND THAT'S WHY HE'S TAKING THE INITIATIVE.
EVEN IF THAT GIRL'S INFORMATION GATHERING ABILITIES ARE TOP NOTCH...
DON'T PUT ON SUCH A SCARY FACE!
KOUSUKE, YOU'RE A BIG IDIOT!
THEY ARE JUST WASTING TIME
WE WON'T BE CAUGHT THAT EASILY!
HOW IS SHE SUPPOSED TO NARROW DOWN THE NUMBER OF POSSIBLE SUSPECTS TO 10 PEOPLE?
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING, HE'LL GET US!
NARUMI-OTOUTO IS NOT THAT EASY TO DEAL WITH
HUH?
HOWEVER...
THE FINAL VICTORY WILL BELONG TO ME!

スパイラル
推理の絆

BROUGHT TO YOU
BY INANE
(#MANGAREADERS@
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SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: RAINE
EDITOR: JOULUPUKKI
PROOFER: MISAO_CHAN

THAT OTOUTO-SAN ISN'T THAT EASY TO TAKE CARE OF.
IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING, WE MIGHT GET BEATEN!
DON'T FORGET, WE'RE THE "BLADE CHILDREN"
WE HAVE AN INERASABLE MARK, WHICH IS... THE MISSING RIB BONE IN OUR BODY.
OUR IDENTITY WILL BE REVEALED IF ANYONE TOUCHES OUR CHEST!

Chapter 13:
Break Through the Heavily Guarded Net

NEWSPAPER CLIP
REMEMBER YOU ONCE TOLD ME...
THAT THE "BLADE CHILDREN" ALL HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON
IF WE CAN NARROW DOWN THE LIST OF SUSPECTS EVEN FURTHER, WE DON'T NEED X-RAYS...
THEY'RE ALL MISSING A RIB BONE!
THEY DEFINITELY CAN'T HIDE THIS FACT FROM PEOPLE.
WE CAN FIND THE MURDERER BY TOUCHING THEM.
HMM... I SEE.

THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA!
I'M A GUY, SO I CAN'T DO THAT SORT OF THING. I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU.
EVEN IF THERE'S 20 PEOPLE, IT WON'T TAKE THAT LONG.
THE SUSPECT'S BEEN CAUGHT IN OUR NET.
VICTORY...
IS DEFINITELY OURS!

SO TROUBLE-SOME!
AND BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT, HE'LL BE USING THIS ONLY CLUE TO TRY AND CATCH THE CULPRIT
NARUMI-OTOUTO KNOWS ABOUT OUR RIBS...
BUT, WAIT...
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY BLADE CHILDREN AT TSUKIOME ACADEMY
ONLY I'M INCLUDED AS ONE OF THE SUSPECTS.
WHEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEWSPAPER CLUB GATHERS ALL THE OF INFO,
I WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM THE NET THAT THEY'VE SET UP...

.....
NAH...
YOU WON'T LOSE..
AM I LOSING FOR SURE?
THERE'S A WAY TO BREAK THROUGH IT!
ACTUALLY, THERE IS A GIRL WHO MANAGES THE INFO...
THEY HAVEN'T FINISHED THEIR NET YET.
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO IT!

THEN THEY'RE FINISHED
AND WITH THAT, WE'LL WIN.
HAHA...
.....
SO---
AS LONG AS WE KILL THE GIRL...

I HOPE ALL GOES WELL
DON'T WORRY!
BEGINNING FROM YESTERDAY, I HAVEN'T GIVEN THE OPPONENT A CHANCE
WHEN I THINK OF THIS BATTLE PLAN,
IT MAKES ME EXCITED
IT'LL WORK FOR SURE!
THE PROBLEM IS... HOW DO WE KILL HER?

YOU CAN DO IT! YOU WANTED TO TAKE ACTION AT SCHOOL AND CHALLENGE NARUMI-OTOUTO RIGHT...
OF COURSE!
IT'S ONLY MEANINGFUL THAT I CHALLENGE HIM HEAD ON!
AND, THERE'S NO POINT IN USING THE SAME TECHNIQUE TO KILL PEOPLE ALL THE TIME.
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING ON DOING THEN?
BUT, IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE
SHE'S ALWAYS WITH OTOUTO-SAN AT SCHOOL THERE'S NOT EVEN A CHANCE TO ATTACK HER UP CLOSE.

DESIGN A TRAP!
I'LL DESIGN A DEATH TRAP FOR HER TO STEP INTO.
THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEWSPAPER CLUB WILL DEFINITELY FALL FOR IT
OH... RIGHT!
IT SHOULD TAKE PLACE NEAR THE CLUB'S COMPUTER.
"DESIGNING A PLAN" IS A GOOD IDEA...
BUT... ARE YOU SURE IT'LL WORK?
THINGS WILL GET DIFFICULT IF YOU HAPPEN TO FAIL.

THAT'S WHY I NEED TO USE A BOMB THAT CAN KILL.
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ALREADY?
THE PERSON WHO DESIGNED THE MAHOUJIN BOMB.
MAHOUJIN - MAGIC SQUARE
WAS ME!

POLICE OFFICE
HEY, INSPECTOR!
THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR TODAY'S INCIDENT AT TSUKIOMI ACADEMY WAS COMPLAINING..
SAYING THAT YOUR LITTLE BROTHER WAS BEING A BUSYBODY,
FREELY MESSING AROUND WITH THE SCENE OF THE CRIME THE JUDGE WAS GETTING ANGRY TOO.
.....
I HOPE THIS DOESN'T BRING YOU TROUBLE..

I HEARD THAT YOU'RE MEDDLING IN THE MURDER CASE AGAIN?
WHAT ARE YOU SCHEMING?
SIS, DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA
I HAVEN'T BEEN SCHEMING ANYTHING
YOU'RE JUST LIKE KIYOTAKA-SAN.
.....

A COLD, PALE LIGHT, LIKE THE LIGHT OF THE FULL MOON, IS SHOWING...
YOU ACT LIKE YOU DON'T CARE, BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE THE EYES THAT SHOW SOME INTEREST IN THE CASE.
.....
.....
PLEASE...
DON'T INTERFERE WITH THIS ANYMORE.
SIS, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TELL YOU.

THE MEASUREMENTS FOR YOUR PANTS SEEM TO...
HAVE YOU GAINED WEIGHT RECENTLY?
WHAT?
ぬっ!!
SIS SEEMS TO BE VERY ANXIOUS...

I HOPE WE CAN CATCH THE CULPRIT SOON.
WE DON'T NEED A LOT ..
HM... THESE EXPLOSIVES SHOULD BE ENOUGH
IT'S COMPLETE!
WE'LL GET TO SEE A GOOD SHOW TOMORROW!

THE NET IS ALMOST COMPLETE!
THE INFORMATION IS SLOWLY COMING TOGETHER.
MY INVESTIGATION SEEMS VERY OPEN,
RIGHT! NARUMI-SAN!
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN ACT IN SECRET...
DO YOU THINK THE SUSPECT MIGHT HAVE FOUND OUT, AND IS RUNNING AWAY INSTEAD?
DON'T WORRY, THE SUSPECT WON'T RUN.

FROM HER METHOD OF KILLING IT'S UNDERSTOOD.
THAT THE MURDERER IS CONFIDENT IN HER SKILLS
EVEN IF SHE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE NET, SHE WON'T ESCAPE
.....
SHE'LL RETALIATE HEAD ON!
MAYBE RIGHT NOW SHE'S THINKING...

"THE NET ISN'T COMPLETE YET"
"ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS KILL THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEWSPAPER CLUB"
NEWSPAPER CLUB
EE-EE-EH-HH!!?
I PURPOSELY TOLD YOU OUT LOUD TO GATHER THE INFORMATION SO THAT I COULD USE YOU AS BAIT
AND ALSO LETTING THE PUBLIC KNOW THAT THE INVESTIGATION COULD END ANYTIME
THERE MUST BE A LOT OF TALK AROUND THE SCHOOL ABOUT THIS...

THE CRIMINAL IS EXPECTING A TURNAROUND,
.....
TODAY, SHE'LL DEFINITELY BE THINKING OF A WAY TO END YOUR LIFE.
BUT, THIS IS WHAT I HOPED FOR TO BEGIN WITH---
LET THE MURDERER TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO APPROACH US,
THEN WE CAN EASILY CATCH HER.
THE MURDERER HAS A LOT OF CONFIDENCE IN HERSELF!
IN ORDER TO BREAK THROUGH THE NET AND DIRECTLY ATTACK US,
SHE'LL DEFINITELY COME UP WITH A PLAN TO KILL YOU INSIDE THE SCHOOL!

BUT AS OF YESTERDAY, I NEVER GAVE HER A CHANCE..
I ESPECIALLY MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HER TO GET NEAR YOU AND KILL YOU.
WASN'T I WITH YOU AT SCHOOL THE ENTIRE TIME?
I WAS ACTUALLY VERY AWARE IN ORDER THAT YOU WOULDN'T GET HURT.
.....
SO, IF THE MURDERER WANTS TO KILL YOU...
THERE ARE ONLY 2 WAYS.
ONE IS TO ATTACK FROM A DISTANCE,
THE OTHER IS USE SOME MACHINERY TO DESIGN A TRAP, AND TAKE YOUR LIFE.
THE SCHOOL IS SPACIOUS, AND TO SHOOT YOU DOWN WOULD BE TOO DIFFICULT.
SO, THE ONLY THING LEFT WOULD BE TO MAKE A TRAP.
IF SO, THEN THIS PLACE WILL BE THE PERFECT LOCATION FOR HER SECOND MURDER.

ACCORDING TO MY DEDUCTIONS, SHE SHOULD BE USING A DEADLY BOMB.
AS LONG AS WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT SHE'S UP TO, THE REST IS EASY.
THE MURDERER WILL DELIBERATELY CREATE A CHANCE TO ENTER THIS ROOM AND SET THE TRAP.
BECAUSE I'VE ALREADY SET A TRAP HERE AGES AGO.
THAT WILL BE MY TIME TO CATCH HER.
MY NET WAS SPLIT INTO TWO PARTS FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.
THIS WAY SHE WILL BE COMPLETELY SEALED.

THIS IS... LOGIC?
NO, THIS ISN'T LOGIC.
AT FIRST, HE MIGHT BE REASONING THROUGH IT,
BUT TO THINK ABOUT ALL OF THESE ASPECTS COMPLETELY, IS NOT SOMETHING THAT A NORMAL PERSON CAN DO.
NARUMI-SAN HASN'T REALISED...
HOW GREAT HE IS.
は。
OH, NARUMI-SAN.
YOU JUST USED ME AS BAIT LIKE THIS,
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF I ACTUALLY DID GET KILLED?

YOU WOULDN'T DIE EVEN IF SOMEONE WAS OUT TO KILL YOU!
OH PLEASE!
ゴゴゴゴ!!
.....
HE'S GONE TOO FAR!
.....
THAT IS THE ONLY WAY THAT PEOPLE CANNOT CONFIRM IF HER RIB BONE IS MISSING OR NOT...
BUT, THE MURDERER HAS YET ANOTHER WAY TO BREAK THROUGH.
BUT THEN, THAT WAY IS TOO DANGEROUS.

IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN...

THE NEXT STEP IS TO FIND A CHANCE TO GO INTO THE CLUB'S ROOM TO SET THE BOMB...
THE ROOM SHOULD BE EMPTY WHEN PEOPLE ARE IN CLASS?
KOUSUKE-KUN, YOU'RE NOT THE REGULAR TYPE OF IDIOT...
IF I DID THAT THEN I'D BE LOSING FOR SURE.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
OTOUTO-SAN ALREADY KNOWS THAT I'LL BE DOING THAT.
SINCE IT'S HARD TO KEEP THE INVESTIGATION A SECRET...
THEY JUST LET IT BE KNOWN TO THE PUBLIC INSTEAD.
THIS IS TRYING TO LURE ME INTO...
"TAKING CARE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEWSPAPER CLUB"!
EVEN IF IT'S HIS BROTHER,
MY ACTIONS WOULD ALL BE SEEN THROUGH
KIYOTAKA-SAMA'S BLOOD ISN'T NORMAL.
.....

SO HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT THAT I'LL BE PLACING THE BOMB SOME PLACE IN THAT ROOM
IN THE END, IT'LL BE ME WHO'S CAUGHT IN THEIR TRAP!
A TWO-PART NET,
IT'LL BE PRETTY HARD TO ESCAPE!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO THEN?
IF WE CAN'T KILL THE GIRL,
AND THE FACT THAT YOU'RE MISSING A RIB BONE WILL BE DISCOVERED BY HARUMI-OTOUTO...
DESTROY THE EVIDENCE...
AS LONG AS HE CAN'T FIND OUT THAT I'M MISSING A BONE, THEN IT'S OKAY, RIGHT?
HEHE
CLICK
THAT'S SIMPLE!

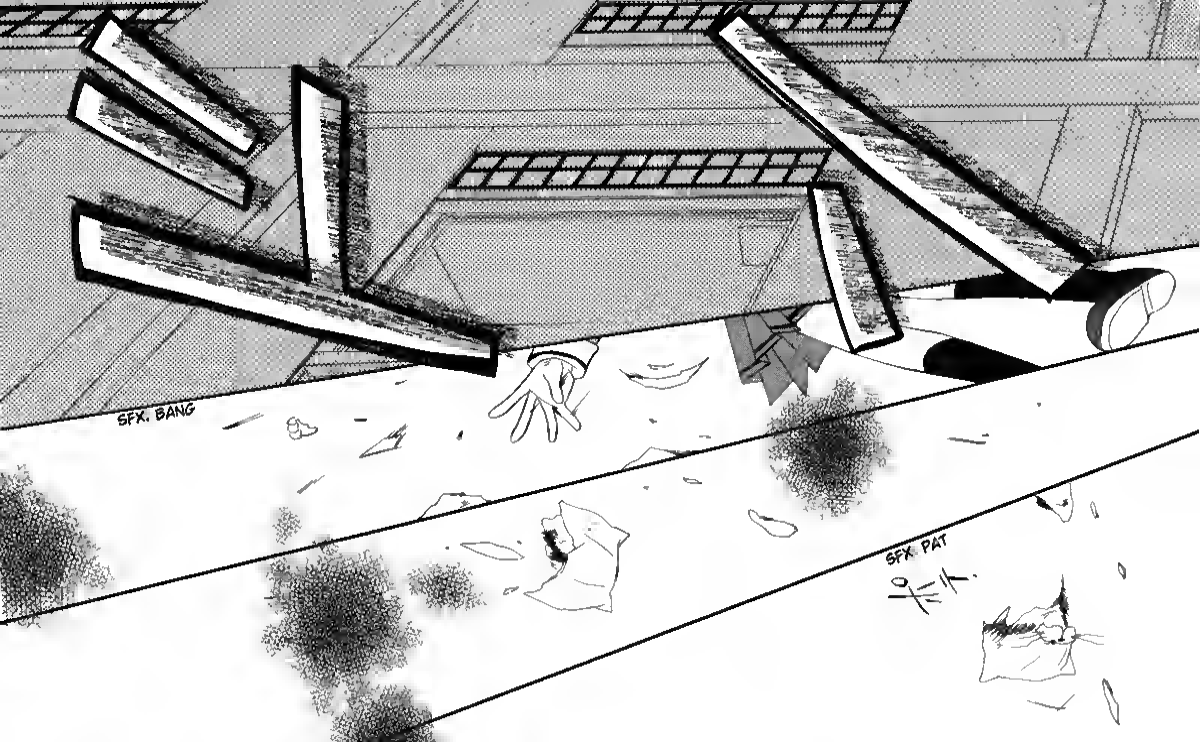
FROM KILLING IMAZATO...
TO OBSERVING NARUMI-OTOUTO'S MOVEMENTS...
HAuuu-
uuu-
uuuu-
uuuu
WHAT IS SHE THINKING?
Ue?
HELP ME
KOU... KOUSUKE-KUUUUUN!
Aah?
SHOO SHOO!
GO AWAY
ANYWAY, IN THE END I'LL WIN!

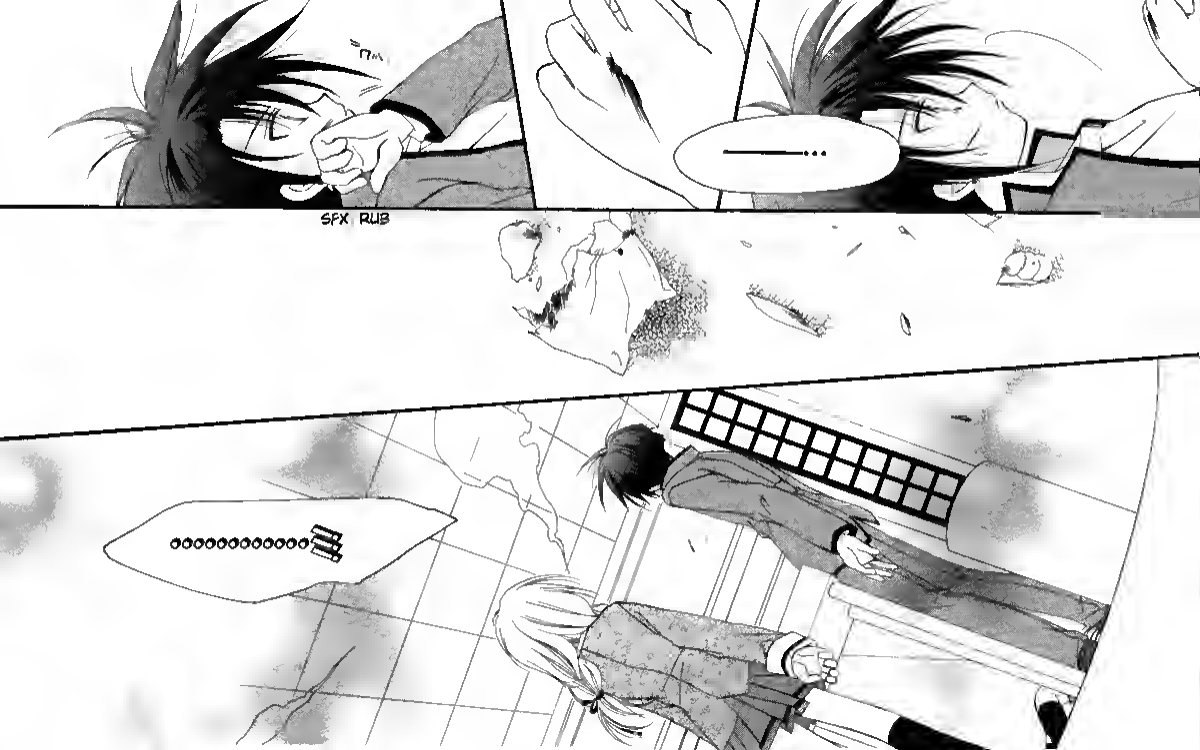
"A LIFE-THREATENING WOUND"?
BECAUSE OTOUTO-SAN HAS A "LIFE-THREATENING" WOUND..
YES, HE HAS NO GUARANTEE OF SAFETY
HE DOESN'T BELIEVE IN HIMSELF, SO WON'T USE HIS STRENGTH TO TAKE ON A BATTLE...
DO YOU REALLY HAVE TO DO THIS?

EXCUSE ME
SFX KACHA
SFX KNOCK KNOCK
RIO...
WHAT?
YOU'RE PART OF THE NEWSPAPER CLUB?
DO I LOOK LIKE IT?
NOT TOO HAPPY!
YOU COME INTO THIS ROOM, USE THE STUFF IN HERE, AND YOU'RE STILL ASKING?
AH!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HELPED ME LAST TIME...

SO... WHAT DO YOU NEED?
THIS...
I FOUND IT IN THE HALL ON FIRST FLOOR
EH?
THIS NOTE WAS STUCK ON THE CAT'S HEAD
--- AH!
Take this to the Newspaper Club

THAT'S NOT RIGHT! THERE'S NO WAY THIS CAN KILL A PERSON.
FROM THE SIZE OF THE DOLL, THERE'S A LIMIT AS TO HOW POWERFUL THE BOMB CAN BE!
DID THE MURDERER SEE THROUGH NARUMI-SAN'S PLANS, AND CHANGE TO THIS STRATEGY?
CAN IT BE THAT THERE'S A BOMB IN THERE?
WHAT IS GOING ON?
!!
OI...
THIS IS WEIRD.
THERE'S A TICKING SOUND INSIDE THE KITTY...


SFX. BANG
SFX. PAT


SFX: RUB
——…
ooooooooooo

DO YOU WANT TO USE THE BOMB TO WOUND YOURSELF?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
OH, IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S GOING TO KILL ANYONE,
IT'S JUST GOING TO TAKE OUT A FEW MORE RIB BONES THAT'S ALL.
IF I'M LUCKY, I WON'T DIE!
PLUS, I'LL CONTROL HOW MANY EXPLOSIVES TO USE.
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!
WHAT'S THIS "IF I'M LUCKY"...
THIS WAY YOUR RISK OF DYING IS TOO HIGH!

BUT, THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET RID OF THE MARK!
AT LEAST PEOPLE CAN NO LONGER TELL IF MY RIB BONE WAS ORIGINALLY MISSING, OR IF IT WAS BROKEN BY THE BOMB
OTOUTO-SAN'S NET IS BASED ON THE FACT ABOUT THE RIB BONE,
AND SO WITH THIS, HIS NET IS RENDERED USELESS
YOU CAN'T PUT YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE JUST TO BREAK THROUGH THIS NET!
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET THE MOST DESIRED RESULT,
AND THE TASTE OF VICTORY IS ALSO THE SWEETEST!
.....

DON'T WORRY!
SFX HEHE
I'M COMPLETELY CONFIDENT IN MY OWN ABILITIES AND MY LUCK.
... EVEN IF I GET DRAGGED TO HELL'S GATE...
I'LL FIND A WAY TO COME BACK.

CALM DOWN!
WHERE IN MY DEDUCTIONS DID I GO WRONG?
THIS HASN'T ENDED YET!
THINK IT OVER!
ピーピー!

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推理の絆

SPIRAL

brought to you by: INANE
#mangareaders@irc.archighway.com

Chapter 14
the Choice of the Believer

editor: Fjornsvayne
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IT'S BEEN THREE WEEKS SINCE THE ACCIDENT...
BECAUSE RIO TAKEUCHI TOOK THE BOMB THAT WAS MEANT FOR ME, SHE WAS HEAVILY INJURED
SHE HAS BEEN HIT HEAVILY,
EVEN HER BONES ARE SHATTERED
SHE TRIED HARD TO ESCAPE DEATH,
BUT NOW SHE'S STILL IN THE HOSPITAL

SO I WAS BUSY HELPING HER AND AT LAST THE SCHOOL PAID FOR HER MEDICATION
RIO-SAN'S PARENTS DIED, AND SINCE SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY RELATIVES, SHE LIVES BY HERSELF
THIS IS ALL NARUMI-SAN'S DOING
BEFORE WHEN I WENT TO VISIT RIO-SAN, HE JUST KEPT QUIET
BUT HE KEPT THINGS ABOUT THE "BLADE CHILDREN" FROM THE POLICE
NO MATTER WHAT I ASKED, HE WOULDN'T ANSWER
COMMANDER'S TEMPER GETS WORSER EVERY DAY
AND KEPT FIGHTING WITH HIS SISTER
IN THE END, IT TROUBLED WATAYA-SAN AS WELL
AND MADE HIM CRY TOO

...HE CAN TALK TO ME!
IF HE HAS ANY PROBLEMS ..
AFTER THE ACCIDENT, I WAS SAFE AND THE INNOCENT RIO-SAN WAS INJURED.
LUCKILY, SHE DIDN'T GET ANY LIFE-THREATENING INJURIES ——
THAT WASN'T "MY FAULT".
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
THIS IS A DARING PLAN TO SURPRISE US...
WHAT?
I KNEW THAT ALREADY

—BUT...
THAT'S TOO RISKY.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO MY PLAN, TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE WAS REALLY ONE LESS RIB.
—IF THE EVIDENCE DISAPPEARED, EVEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING
IT CAN'T BE!
RIO-SAN HURT HERSELF WITH THE BOMB ON PURPOSE?

AND SHE IS MOST LIKELY THE CRIMINAL.
THAT WAY SHE CAN DESTROY THE EVIDENCE...
ALSO, IN YOUR LIST OF SUSPECTS, NO ONE HAD ONE LESS RIB.
PRETENDING TO BE A VICTIM BY EXPLODING HER OWN CHEST
SHE ALREADY KNEW MY PLAN SO SHE USED ME AND MY PLAN
THAT GIRL, IN ORDER TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT, INFLICTED DAMAGE TO HERSELF FIRST..

IF NOT, THE BOMB'S POWER WOULD BE TOO SMALL
THIS KIND STUPID METHOD
CAN ACTUALLY GET US TRICKED.
IF SHE REALLY WANTED TO KILL YOU ..
MAKING A BOMB THAT WOULD KILL YOU IN CLOSE RANGE WOULDN'T BE HARD.
——THE GIRL NAMED RIO TAKEUCHI ..
IS THE CURSED CHILD THAT KILLED IMAZATO-SENSEI.
BUT SHE WILL NOT ESCAPE ME.

AFTER THE ACCIDENT, SHE WAS SAFE FOR THREE WEEKS
NOW SHE MUST THINK THAT SHE'S ALREADY ESCAPED OUR INVEST-IGATION
EVEN THOUGH SHE FOILED OUR SURROUNDING PLAN
SHE CAN'T ROAM AROUND FREELY.
THAT'S WHY, WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE OF CATCHING HER!
OR, SHE MIGHT THINK THAT ESC PING DEATH MEANS TH T SHE'S WON
MY 'N LYSIS IS COMPLETELY CORRENT AND THERE'S NOT ONE ERROR.
I ALSO KNOW HER MOTIVES.

I WILL DEFINITELY CATCH THE CULPRIT!
I WON'T GIVE UP THAT EASILY.
...IN THESE TIMES HE SHOULD BE MORE HAPPIER...
HE APPEARS TO BE A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT...
NARUMI-SAN...

HOW IS RIO DOING?
SHE'S VERY WELL, VERY LIVELY.
ふぁ
BECAUSE SHE GETS TO SLEEP ALL DAY, SHE'S REALLY HAPPY.

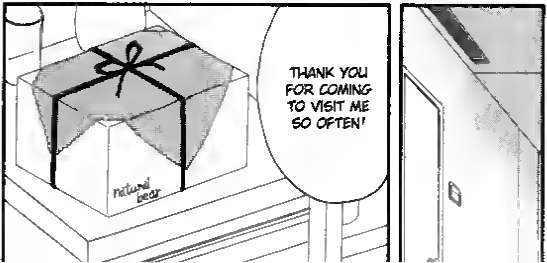
JEEZE
RIO IS SO RECKLESS!
IN ORDER TO GET AWAY FROM NARUMI-OTOUTO'S SUSPICIONS, SHE ACTUALLY BET ON HER OWN LIFE——
RIO WASN'T RISKING HER LIFE JUST TO ESCAPE, IN FACT...
IT'S THE OPPO-SITE!
HER MAIN PURPOSE WAS TO BEAT NARUMI-OTOUTO FACE TO FACE

THESE PLANS WERE USED TO ENSURE VICTORY
THE REAL BATTLE STARTS NOW!
YAY!—
ドン!
竹内 理
IT'S A PRESENT FROM RUTHERFORD
IT'S A PAPAYA—♡
ぱおおおお

AAAW ~~
EYES-KUN IS SO CARING
HEY KOUSUKE-KUN!
LET'S CUT IT UP!
RIO...
OH!
YOU FOUND OUT?
FROM NOW ON, HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DEFEAT NARUMI-OTOUTO?

HEHE. YOU'VE GROWN SMARTER!
THE TRUTH IS THAT IT WAS RUTHERFORD WHO FOUND OUT
I'M STILL MISSING A FEW THINGS
CAN YOU HELP ME PREPARE?

A FEW DAYS LATER ——



IS THE WOUND HEALING NICELY?
YES.
ANYWAY, WE CAN'T CHANGE OUR RELATIONSHIP.
THANKS TO YOU I'M GETTING BETTER.
.....
THAT CAT DOLL WAS A FAILURE.

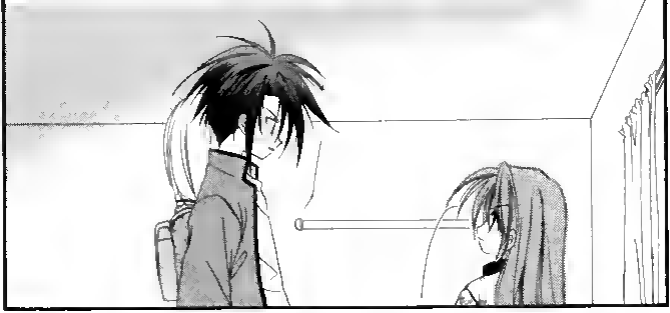
...YES?
WE ALREADY FOUND THE STORE SELLING THAT DOLL
YOU...
THOUGHT THAT IF THE DOLL WAS BLOWN UP TO PIECES
THEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FIND ANY INFORMATION ABOUT IT?

SO YOU DIDN'T GO TO A STORE FAR AWAY
NOR DID YOU DISGUISE YOURSELF
IT WAS A FAILURE, WASN'T IT...
THE STORE CLERK SAID SHE REMEMBERED YOU BOUGHT THE DOLL THE DAY BEFORE THE ACCIDENT.
HUH?
DID YOU MAKE A MISTAKE?
THE STORE'S SECURITY SYSTEM TAPED YOU WHEN YOU WERE INSIDE THE STORE
EVEN OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL, MY INFORMATION IS STILL POWERFUL
TELL ME THE TRUTH!

IF SHE ESCAPES THIS...
THE TRUTH IS...
THE STORE CLERK WASN'T SURE AND THERE WASN'T A SECURITY CAMERA EITHER
ALL OF THIS WAS TO MAKE RIO-SAN CONFESS!
NARUMI-SAN, HE... WILL BE IN EVEN MORE PAIN
DON'T TRY TO HIDE IT!
BLADE CHILDREN

?!
HI!

ASA-ZUKI!?
YAH
LONG TIME NO SEE.
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE IN TROUBLE.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
IT'S OK.
I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN
IF WE CAN'T EVEN HANDLE THIS...
THEN DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT BEATING FATE!



YOU DID A GOOD JOB
KIYOTAKA-SAMA'S YOUNGER BROTHER
BUT, IF WE KEEP GOING ON LIKE THIS
THERE WILL BE NO END
YOU DID A GOOD JOB IN DISCOVERING THAT I WAS ONE OF THE BLADE CHILDREN
——IF THAT'S THE CASE, OTOUTO-SAN

LET'S STOP PLAYING AND BEGIN THE FINAL ROUND TO THE DECIDE THE WINNER!
——LET'S FINISH THIS.

THIS CONTEST IS VERY SIMPLE
AND IT WILL DO THE JOB QUICKLY. IT WON'T ADD MEANINGLESS TIME TO OUR BATTLE
ONE PACK IS REGULAR SUGAR
AND THE OTHER IS A POISON THAT LOOKS THE SAME AS SUGAR.
THE POISON IS GOOD ENOUGH TO KILL A PERSON TWO TIMES OVER
AND EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHICH BAG IS THE POISON

WE BOTH PICK A CUP TO DRINK.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
IF YOU DRINK THE CUP WITH THE POISON, YOU WILL IMMEDIATELY DIE
WE BOTH HAVE A 50-50 CHANCE OF WINNING
NO ONE KNOWS WHO THE GOD OF DEATH WILL PICK
.....
——HELP YOURSELF

WHO..
EVEN IF I KNOW WHICH CLIP CONTAINS THE POISON AND AVOID IT
THEN THERE'S NO POINT IN THIS CONTEST
YOU PICK FIRST
I'LL JUST DRINK THE OTHER ONE.
WHAT YOU'VE JUST TOLD ME
THE EVIDENCE, THE WITNESSES, ARE ALL FAKE!
CAN YOU?
EVEN IF I DON'T RISK MY LIFE I WILL STILL BE ABLE TO CATCH YOU
WHO WOULD WANT TO PLAY SUCH A STUPID GAME!

SOONER OR LATER?
DON'T THINK IF YOU'VE COMMITTED A CRIME, YOU CAN STILL AVOID GETTING CAUGHT.
SOONER OR LATER I WILL FIND REAL EVIDENCE AND ARREST YOU!
YOU THINK ME AND KOUSUKE-KUN..
WILL SURRENDER QUIETLY WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING?
IF WE DON'T END THIS NOW, RIO-SAN WILL BE RECKLESS AND EVEN KILL US!
THAT'S RIGHT

IF YOU THINK I'M AN OBSTACLE
YOU CAN USE A SIMPLER WAY TO KILL ME!
THAT MEANS WE'RE AT A DISADVANTAGE!
WHY DO ALL THESE THINGS?
OF COURSE WE CAN KILL YOU.
BUT IT HAS TO BE UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUM-STANCES.
THAT IS OUR AGREEMENT WITH KIYOTAKA-SAMA.

CALM DOWN, AND THINK IT OVER
DAMN
BROTHER!?
HOWEVER
WE DON'T NEED TO HESITATE FOR OTHER PEOPLE
BE BRAVE AND CAREFULLY EXAMINE EVERYTHING!
DECODE THE OPPONENT'S THOUGHTS!
AAH
BOTH OF THE DRINKS HAVE POISON
AND WHOEVER DRINKS FIRST DIES.
——YES, DON'T WORRY, I WON'T BE SO EVIL.

IF I DIE THEN YOU WIN
BUT IF I LIVE THEN PLEASE LET ME HAVE MY FREEDOM
DON'T THINK I WILL BELIEVE YOU!
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, I CAN DRINK A CUP FIRST.
OF COURSE YOU DON'T HAVE TO DRINK IT
IF I DRINK IT, I WILL DIE
THESE THINGS, ONLY IDIOTS WON'T ESCAPE
HOWEVER THOSE THAT ESCAPE CAN'T DO IMPORTANT THINGS

THEN I'LL DRINK FIRST
SINCE THERE'S A 50-50 CHANCE OF SURVIVAL ANYWAY
THAT'S 2 TIMES THE INGREDIENTS OF THE POISON!
EVEN IF YOU DRINK IT IN A HOSPITAL, YOU CAN'T BE SAVED
AND WILL DIE IMMEDIATELY!
I KNOW
BUT
IF YOU AVOID DRINKING IT BECAUSE OF FEAR...
THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THAT AND DEATH.
ONLY LET YOUR CRUEL FATE SLOWLY
TAKE AWAY ALL THE THINGS AROUND YOU

I WILL GUARD MYSELF AND EVERYTHING AROUND ME
SO I WILL NOT ESCAPE!
CHANGE FATE, AND KEEP ON GOING FORWARD
EVEN IF—
I RISK MY LIFE!
UNTIL YOUR SOUL GETS WIPED AWAY ENTIRELY.
JUST LIKE HOW YOU WILL BE AFTER KIYOTAKA-SAMA TAKES AWAY EVERYTHING. ONLY LIVE YOUR LIFE MEANINGLESSLY

SOMEDAY YOU WILL BE DESTROYED BY THE CRUEL HAND OF DESTINY.
IF YOU CAN'T EVEN PASS THIS STAGE
SO HOW ABOUT IT?
I DON'T CARE ABOUT DESTINY!
I WILL NEED TO DEFEAT YOU HERE!
BUT...

I-ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE!
THIS TIME USING INTELLIGENCE IS USELESS
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF.
BELIEVING THAT YOU WILL WIN, IS THE KEY TO DECIDE THE WINNER!

WHO WILL END UP DRINKING THE POISONED TEA?
.....
WELL, THEN
I WILL DRINK FIRST
—WAIT!

BELIEVING IN YOURSELF WON'T CHANGE THE TRUTH
DON'T THINK THIS MOVE CAN TRICK ME!
ONLY BY USING INTELLIGENCE, PROCEEDING CAREFULLY, YOU CAN WIN!
YOU MAY LOOK DUMB, BUT YOU'RE ACTUALLY VERY SMART
AND VERY CALM AS WELL..
YOU ARE DEFINITELY...
VERY BRAVE

ALSO, YOU'VE ALREADY SEEN THROUGH MY THINKING...

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, EVEN I AM FRIGHTENED BY YOUR WORDS.

THAT'S WHY YOU SWITCHED TO THE OFFENSIVE
PLANNING THAT AFTER I LOSE THIS BATTLE AND MY CONFIDENCE AND THEN YOU WOULD DO A FINAL BATTLE WITH ME

I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I CAN SEE THROUGH A "DUMB GIRL WHO BLOWS UP HERSELF IN ORDER TO GET RID OF THE EVIDENCE"'S MIND

CAN YOU REALLY MAKE A GAME THAT HAS A 50-50 CHANCE OF DYING?

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT CAREFULLY...

THAT TIME YOU WERE CAUGHT IN A TRAP
ONLY BY RISKING YOUR LIFE, YOU COULD'VE ESCAPED.
OUTSIDERS MIGHT NOT FEEL THAT'S STRANGE
BECAUSE YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE AND BOMBED YOURSELF.
HOWEVER
AND ALSO KNOW THAT THE EVIDENCE IS FICTIONAL.
BUT DESPITE THIS, YOU STILL WANT TO RISK YOUR LIFE WITH ME?
BUT WHAT ABOUT NOW?
YOU HAVE A GREAT ADVANTAGE
YOU SHOULD BE THINKING LIKE THIS...
SO

IN THIS GAME
YOU HAVE A 100% OF WINNING
BUT THE ONE CHOOSING THE CUP FIRST IS YOU!
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO RIG THE CUPS
WHO SAID YOU CAN'T?
IF YOU DRANK IT FIRST
AND YOU DON'T DIE, IT MEANS THE OTHER CUP HAS THE POISON
WHO IN THE WORLD WOULD BE STUPID ENOUGH TO DRINK POISON?

JUST BECAUSE YOU BOMBED YOURSELF
YOU THINK PEOPLE WOULD THINK THAT YOU WERE CRAZY
BOTH OF THEM ARE SUGAR
SO YOU DIDN'T HAVE POISON TO BEGIN WITH!
AND BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO DRINK THE OTHER CUP
I WOULD BE FORCED TO ADMIT DEFEAT
IF YOU REALLY DRANK FIRST, YOU WOULD'VE WON
...EVERYTHING WOULD END.
IF THINGS CAME TO THAT...

THAT'S WHY I
THAT'S THE SAME AS DYING.
IF IT'S BECAUSE OF FEAR, YOU ESCAPE
CAN NEVER SURPASS MY BROTHER.
IF THERE'S SOMEONE WHO DIES IN HERE, THE CORPSE WOULD BE HARD TO HANDLE
EVEN THE BEST CAMOUFLAGE CAN'T ESCAPE THE POLICE'S INVESTIGATION
YOU WOULDN'T GO THROUGH ALL THAT TROUBLE
YOU HAVE MISCALCULATED ONE THING.
EVERY IMPORTANT THING WILL BE TAKEN AWAY BY DESTINY.

THESE TWO CUPS
BOTH OF THEM SHOULD BE SUGAR WATER.
!!

NARUMI-SAN!

AS EXPECTED OF YOU, OTOUTO-SAN!
TALKING SO MUCH AND YET ONLY DRINKING SO LITTLE WILL...
NOT BE FATAL.

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! IT'S SO BITTER
STRYCHNINE!!
Editor's note: A poison that gradually causes exaggerated reflexes, headaches, convulsions and stiffness etc. Even smaller doses may in some cases be fatal

DON'T FORGET THAT I ONCE SAID...
I WOULD NOT PLAY ANY TRICKS!

BUT THERE WILL BE NO WAY TO CHANGE DESTINY

THIS GIRL!
REALLY GAMBLED HER LIFE TO BEAT ME?
IF IT'S JUST AS RIO TAKEUCHI SAID...
BELIEVING IN YOUR OWN STRENGTH IS THE KEY...

NO MATTER WHICH CUP WAS CHOSEN, THERE IS NO POISON
NARUMI-OTOUTO'S ANALYSIS WAS ABSOLUTELY CORRECT!
BUT VERY BITTER MEDICINE
THOSE TWO BAGS AREN'T SUGAR
UNLESS HE BELIEVED IN HIMSELF!
HE ALSO KNEW THAT THE POISON WAS STRYCHNINE
SO WHEN HE TASTED THAT IT WAS A LITTLE BITTER, HE COULDN'T DRINK ANYMORE
BECAUSE RIO BLEW HERSELF UP
THAT MADE HIM THINK THAT SHE WAS THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO WOULD EASILY GAMBLE HER LIFE

AYUMU DIDN'T LOSE TO RIO
RIO'S RECKLESS WAY OF DOING THINGS GOT NARUMI-OTOUTO AFRAID
IN ORDER TO TRICK HIM INTO THINKING THAT THE MEDICINE WAS POISON
BUT CLEARLY...
HE LOST TO HIS WEAK SELF!
OTOUTO-SAN SHOULD'VE BELIEVED IN HIS ANALYSIS AND DRUNKEN THE WHOLE CUP.
THEN HE WOULD'VE BEEN THE WINNER.

OTHERWISE THERE'S NO WAY TO CHALL-ENGE FATE
YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE IN YOUR-SELF!
.....
WAIT!

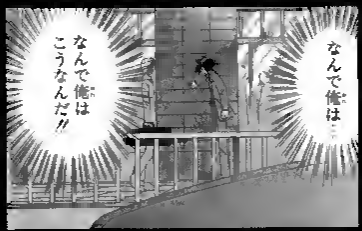
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH NARUMI-SAN'S ANALYSIS
THE RESULT IS CLEAR
HE WAS ABSOLUTELY WRONG
NO!
I BELIEVE THAT NARUMI-SAN IS RIGHT!

THIS CUP DEFINITELY ISN'T POISONED
!!

IT'S ONLY MEDICINE.
SEE
WAIT AND SEE!
THIS IS NOT OVER!

自分の力を信じる者は、運命さえ超えられる。

必要なのは自分を信じること……。



…少年は自分を信じ、運命の分岐点まで届くのか――…。

次巻、運命の螺旋は加速する。

To be continued. Please wait!

～ブレ・チルの謎!?～
I HAVE...
NO IDEA!
PLEASE GIVE US CHARACTER PROFILES!
RIGHT AFTER WE STOPPED LOOKING FOR A TITLE, WE GOT A SURPRISING AMOUNT OF FEEDBACK!
WE DIDN'T THINK THERE'D BE THIS MANY SO WE WERE REALLY SURPRISED!
WOW!
ANOTHER OPINION IS...
FALLING
SO, THERE REALLY ISN'T ANYTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THE PROFILES SORRY!
IT'S A TRADE SECRET!
I THINK?
I WANT TO SEE KOUSUKE-KUN WITHOUT HIS GLASSES!
I'LL SHOW YA!

translator Hisshouburaiken

WHO IS HE?
KOU-CHAN'S NOT REALLY KOU-CHAN WITHOUT HIS GLASSES!
SAME PICTURE WITH GLASSES DRAWN
JUST LIKE THIS GUY'S NOT REALLY HIMSELF WITHOUT HIS SIDE-BURNS
ALSO, RIO-CHAN'S HAIR ISN'T BLACK. IT'S GREY.
WHICH REMINDS ME. I GOT A LETTER ONCE, SAYING "I WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THAT KOU-CHAN'S HAIR IS PINK!" I'D SAY IT'S POTATO-COLORED... THINK OF IT AS A REDDISH-PURPLE COLOR
I REALLY WANTED IT TO BE PINK BUT THEN I THOUGHT "EEH PINK IN SPIRAL!" AND DECIDED AGAINST IT
IF IT WERE BROWN OR SOMETHING THAT GUY OR WHO WOULD PROBABLY SMACK YOU
MOVING ON I SHOULD SAY THAT I PAINTED EYES-SAMA WITH PALE PURPLE HAIR BUT SILVER HAIR GOES WITH HIS IMAGE
MOVING ON
I COULD GO ON FOREVER SO I'LL STOP FOR NOW!
I WANTED TO DO MORE! A NEW THEME OR SOMETHING